

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 18-21, and 25-29 are pending in the application. Claims 15 and 25 are independent.

Claims 10-14 and 25-29 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, for the reasons noted at page 2 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection on the ground that the person of ordinary skill in the art would not be confused as to the meaning or scope of the claims. Nevertheless, these claims have been amended for clarity with respect to the specification and Drawings, and not in response to any statutory requirement.

Claims 1-16 and 22-24 were rejected as being unpatentable over Morgan, Byer, Birchkus, Meier and Adams, for the reasons discussed on pages 2-4 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully traverses all art rejections. However, the Examiner kindly indicated that Claims 17-21 contain allowable subject matter. Therefore, while specifically traversing the art rejections, and preserving Applicant's right to file a continuation application to pursue the broad but patentable claims, Applicant has incorporated subject matter from allowable dependent Claim 17 into the independent Claim 15 solely to secure immediate allowance thereof.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


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